

Adoptions Program
Pregnancy Counseling
Post-Adoption Services

Catholic
Charities
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

July 30, 1991



Apartment #
Smithtown, N.Y. 11787

Dear Mrs.

We can certainly understand your desire to know more about you biological heritage.

Our records indicate that at the time of your birth your birth mother was 17 years old. She was 5'9 1/2" tall, 140 lbs., with brown hair, blue eyes and a medium complexion. Her nationality was French/Irish/English. She had no religion. She completed the 11th grade. She liked to read - her favorite subject being English. Other interests included basketball, camping, dancing and motorcycles. Her first name was Patricia or Pat.

Your birth father was 19 years old at the time of your birth. He was 6' tall, 170 lbs., with curly, brown hair, blue eyes and a medium complexion. His nationality was English and Italian. He had no religion. He completed the 9th grade and worked at various jobs. He had worked as a ranch hand and a mechanic. His interests included the outdoors, camping, motorcycles, guitar, hunting and fishing. His favorite school subject was math. His first name was Russell or Russ.

Patricia and Russell both came from childhoods that were described as "deprived". Both experienced being shifted from one home to another. Patricia lived in several foster homes. Her father had deserted her mother prior to her birth. Russell grew up with different relatives.

They met when working at a ranch in northern California. Patricia was working as a babysitter and cook. Russell was working as a ranch hand. They married two months later - Russell was 17, Patricia was 16. Their marriage was described as a way for them to find some security in their unstable and insecure lives. The marriage was shaky.

Patricia and Russell described themselves as "gypsies at heart". They moved from one place to another. Roaming was described as their way of trying to "find" themselves. They believed that this was no way of life for a child. They believed that a child should have a stable home life with firm roots - something they couldn't give.

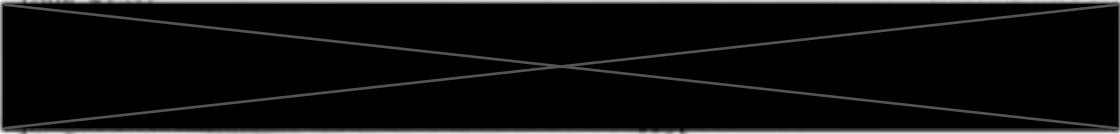
Ms. 

-2-

July 30, 1991

It was their inability to offer you stability that eventually led them to adoption. They sought help from Contra Costa County Adoption Services in September, 1965. You were placed in a temporary foster home on October 8, 1965. Relinquishment papers were signed later in October. You were officially placed with your parents on February 25, 1966.

Your birth



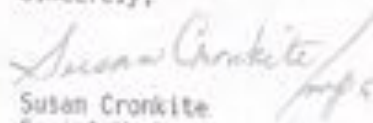
As for your extended family, your birth father's father was born in 1920. He was thought to be a college graduate. He owned a small airport. He was 6' tall, medium build, with blue eyes and brown hair. His mother was born in 1923. She completed high school and worked as a waitress. She was 5'6" tall, big boned, with hazel eyes and brown hair. His oldest brother was born in 1943, was 6'2" tall, slender, with blue eyes and blonde hair. He graduated from high school. His sister was born in 1947. She was 6' tall, with blue eyes and brown hair. She graduated from high school and worked as a sales clerk. He had two other brothers (possibly half siblings) - one born in 1939, the other in 1963. The older was in the Navy, 6' tall, medium build, with dark brown eyes.

Your birth mother's father was born in 1928. He had some high school and was in the Navy. He was 6' tall, with brown eyes and black hair. Her mother was born in 1930. She completed the 10th grade. She was 5'4" tall, medium build, with blue eyes and brown hair. She had a half sister who was born in 1951 who was still in school.

I am not sure how your adoptive parents came to think that your birth parents' parental rights were terminated because of abuse. Possibly it was because of a fractured leg you suffered when you accidentally fell out of a car at 13 months of age. You were put in casts and in traction.

I hope this information has been helpful to you.

Sincerely,


Susan Cronkite
Social Worker

SC:MPA

Enclosures

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Catholic Charities

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

This letter is addressed to all of you who have contacted Catholic Charities San Francisco for information and service following legal completion of the adoption process.

We want you to know that this agency is committed to providing post-adoption services. We are also firmly committed to maintaining your confidentiality, both as you request and as California law stipulates. We will be as thorough and as prompt as possible in locating records, researching files, transmitting information, and making appointments and referrals.

In making a request for information from adoptive files, it is essential that your letter of request and/or waiver form be notarized. If you will be coming to our office to obtain background information, you will be asked to show some form of identification, such as a driver's license, at the time of your appointment.

There have been changes in California's disclosure laws since many of you placed a child, adopted a child, or were yourself placed for adoption. A process of Waiver of Confidentiality has been established whereby if all parties to the adoption, including the adopted person over age 18, sign unsolicited waivers, the agency can facilitate contact. If placement occurred January, 1984 or later, the adopted person must be 21 and adoptive parents need not participate. A social worker would be able to answer your questions and/or discuss the waiver process in more detail with you. Whether you choose to participate in the waiver process or not, we do encourage each of you to provide updated information for your file.

Because years have passed for some of you, and because your personal circumstances and feelings will have changed over time, you may want to review your experiences and feelings with a social worker at our agency, or be referred elsewhere if this office is not convenient for you.

Staffing an agency and providing services of all kinds means that we must function primarily on a fee-for-service basis. It costs Catholic Charities \$65.00 per hour to provide family services. We ask that you make an initial \$25.00 processing fee payment to Catholic Charities. We will bill for any additional fees based on the amount of staff time necessary to service your request.

We are committed to a policy that no one be denied service because of inability to pay. Your worker will be glad to discuss appropriate fee adjustments with you.

We look forward to being of assistance to you.

Adoption Staff
Catholic Charities of San Francisco

9/89
Enclosures: Waiver(s)
Billing